

IN THE CLAIMS

Please amend the claims as follows:

Claims 1-6 (Cancelled)

Claim 7 (Currently Amended): A method for identifying a gamma-secretase and/or a beta-secretase modulator, comprising ~~the following steps~~:

a) ~~identifying of~~ contacting a molecule with LPTM4B (lysosomal associated transmembrane protein 4 beta protein) that has at least 90% identity with the amino acid of SEQ ID NO: 1 ~~-interacting molecule by determining whether a given test compound is a LPTM4B-interacting molecule, and~~

b) determining whether ~~the LPTM4B-interacting~~ said molecule of ~~step a)~~ is capable of modulating increases or decreases gamma-secretase and/or beta-secretase activity, thereby identifying a molecule that modulates gamma-secretase and/or a beta-secretase;

wherein said LPTM4B has at least 90% identity with the amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO: 1.

Claim 8 (Currently Amended): The method of claim 7, wherein the ability of said molecule to decrease gamma- or beta-secretase activity is determined in step a) ~~the test compound is brought into contact with LPTM4B and the interaction of LPTM4B with the test compound is determined.~~

Claim 9 (Currently Amended): The method of claim 8, wherein the ability of said molecule to increase gamma- or beta-secretase activity is determined ~~the interaction of the test compound with LPTM4B results in an inhibition of LPTM4B activity.~~

Claim 10 (Currently Amended): The method of claim 7 ~~any of claims 7 to 9~~, wherein ~~in step b) the ability of the~~ gamma-secretase and/or the beta-secrease activity is determined by measuring their ability to cleave APP (amyloid precursor protein) ~~is measured, preferably wherein the ability to produce Abeta-42 is measured.~~

Claim 11 (Withdrawn, Currently Amended): A method for preparing a pharmaceutical composition for the treatment of a neurodegenerative disease[[s]], comprising the following steps:

a) identifying a gamma-secretase and/or beta-secretase modulator by the method of claim 7 ~~according to claims 7 to 10~~, and

b) formulating the gamma-secretase and/or beta-secretase modulator into a pharmaceutical composition.

Claim 12 (Withdrawn, Currently Amended): The method of claim 11, further comprising ~~the step of mixing the identified molecule~~ said gamma- and/or beta-secretase with a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier.

Claim 13 (Withdrawn, Currently Amended): A pharmaceutical composition comprising a LAPTM4B-inhibitor as ~~defined in any of claims 1 to 5~~ obtained by the method of Claim 7.

Claim 14 (Withdrawn, Currently Amended): A pharmaceutical composition obtainable by the method according to claim 11 ~~any of claims 11 or 12~~.

Claim 15 (Withdrawn, Currently Amended): The pharmaceutical composition according to ~~any of claims 13 or 14~~ for the treatment of neurodegenerative disease such as Alzheimer's disease and related neurodegenerative disorders.

Claim 16 (Withdrawn, Currently Amended) A method for treating ~~or preventing~~ a neurodegenerative disease, ~~preferably Alzheimer's disease administering to a subject in need of such treatment or prevention~~ comprising administering a therapeutically effective amount of a pharmaceutical composition of claim 13 to a subject in need thereof ~~any of claims 13 to 15.~~

Claim 17 (Cancelled)

Claim 18 (New): The method of claim 7, wherein said LAPTM4B molecule is at least 95% identical to the amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO: 1.

Claim 19 (New): The method of claim 7, wherein said LAPTM4B molecule is at least 99% identical to the amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO: 1.

Claim 20 (New): The method of claim 10, comprising measuring the production of Abeta-42 or A β 1-42.